# Rishworth Urban Sanitary District.

## MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT

### FOR THE YEAR 1906.

GENTLEMEN,

I respectfully beg to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1906.

During the year there has been very little infectious disease reported. One case of Enteric Fever, One of Diphtheria, and Two of Scarlatina occurred during the last quarter of the year at the Grammar School. The infection of the two first-named diseases was, undoubtedly, contracted outside the district during the holiday time, and the disease developed on returning to School.

The Birth Rate is a more satisfactory one. The total number of Births registered in the district is 25—17 being males and 8 females. This number gives a rate, per thousand head of the population, of 27·25. This is slightly above the average for the last Ten years and the general rate for England and Wales for 1906, which is again a lowest on record.

Thirteen Deaths were registered as belonging to the district—12 inside and 1 outside the district. This is at the rate of 14·25 per thousand, which is below the general death-rate of the country. But out of this number of deaths, four were violent deaths occurring to non-residents, three being caused by the sad fatality on the main road near the Derby Inn, and one at Booth Wood Paper Mill. This is an unusually large proportion of deaths due to accident, and, added to the deaths caused by accident the previous year (which was also a very large proportion of the total number of deaths), gives to the district an unfortunate notoriety. In addition to these four violent deaths, two were deaths of premature twins, three days old. So that if we deduct these Six deaths we have a total of Seven deaths due to disease, one of which occurred in the Halifax Infirmary; the rate on this number of deaths is the remarkably low one of 7·5 per thousand. It is satisfactory to note that no deaths were attributed to Tuberculosis in any form.

There is very little else to report. Certain improvements have been made in property at Turner Bottom, which previously had been condemned as unfit for habitation. The Water Supply has been, so far as I know, satisfactory and sufficient,

During the year I made an inspection, along with the Sanitary Inspector, of certain Cowsheds and Dairies on farms from which milk is supplied to residents in the district. I reported on the Sanitary conditions of these premises to the District Council, stating in my Report that I found the Cowsheds and Dairies which I inspected quite satisfactory in this respect. I advised certain small structural improvements at two farms.

No new Factories or Workshops have been built in the district during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours respectfully,

W. B. MERCER, M.B., D.P.H.

*Medical Officer of Health.*